

ALBA

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

***PORTABLE CASSETTE RECORDER
WITH DIGITAL COUNTER, DIN DR-160***

COPYRIGHT NOTICE WARNING.

MOST RECORDS, COMPACT DISCS, AUDIO AND VIDEO CASSETTES, RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTS CONTAIN MATERIAL WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF COPYRIGHT. IT IS UNLAWFUL TO RECORD SUCH MATERIAL IN ANY FORM WHATSOEVER, WHETHER ON DISC OR TAPE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE COPYRIGHT OWNER CONCERNED. ANY PERSON WHO MAKES A RECORDING OF SUCH MATERIAL WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE COPYRIGHT OWNER INFRINGES COPYRIGHT AND MAY BE LIABLE TO PAY SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGES TO THE COPYRIGHT OWNER AND IN SOME CASES, TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

For your own safety read following instruction carefully before attempting to connect this unit to the mains.

IMPORTANT

The wires in the mains lead are coloured in accordance with following code:

BLUE – NEUTRAL
BROWN – LIVE

As the colours of the wires in the mains lead may not correspond with the coloured markings identifying the terminals in your plug **PROCEED AS FOLLOWS.**

The wire which is coloured **BLUE** must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter **N** or coloured **BLACK**.

The wire which is coloured **BROWN** must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter **L** or coloured **RED**.

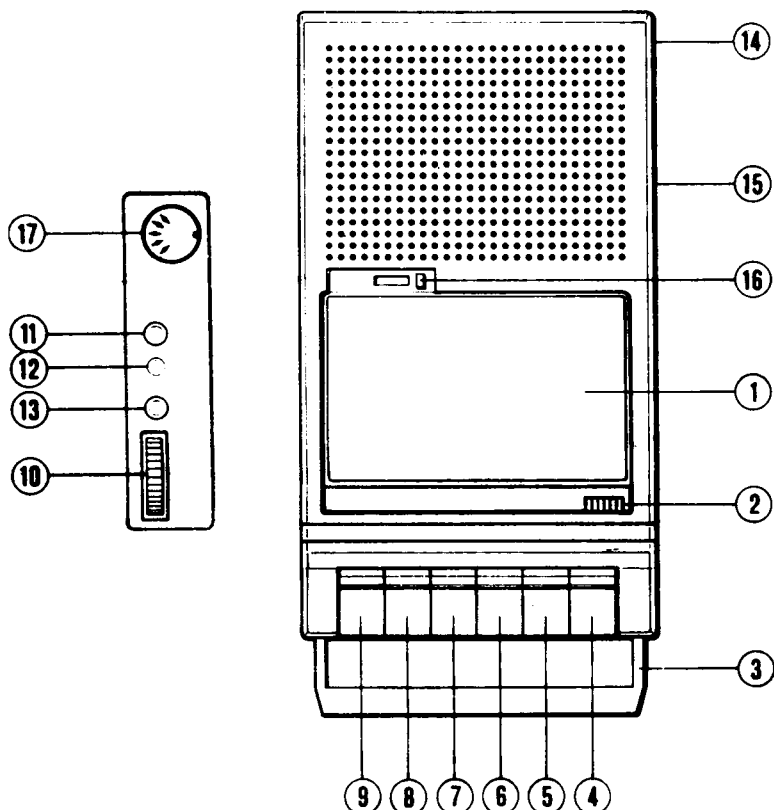
If a 13A plug is used, fit a 3A Fuse. If any other plug is used, protect with a 5A fuse in the plug, adaptor or at the distribution board.

CAUTION

TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK DISCONNECT FROM THE MAINS BEFORE REMOVING COVER. NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE, REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

SAFETY PRECAUTION

THIS EQUIPMENT BE DISCONNECTED FROM THE MAINS WHEN NOT IN USE. DO NOT ALLOW THIS UNIT TO BE EXPOSED TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.



FEATURES

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (1) CASSETTE DOOR | (10) VOLUME CONTROL |
| (2) BUILT-IN CONDENSER MIC. | (11) EXTENSION MIC. SOCKET |
| (3) HIDE-AWAY CARRYING HANDLE | (12) REMOTE CONTROL SOCKET |
| (4) PAUSE BUTTON | (13) EARPHONE SOCKET |
| (5) STOP/EJECT BUTTON | (14) BATTERY DOOR |
| (6) F.F. BUTTON | (15) MAINS LEAD SOCKET |
| (7) REW BUTTON | (16) TAPE COUNTER |
| (8) LOAD/PLAY BUTTON | (17) DIN SOCKET |
| (9) SAVE/RECORD BUTTON | |

POWER SUPPLY

This unit is designed to operate on AC (~) 240 volts 50 Hz mains supply or DC 6V by using 4 batteries, type UM-2 or equivalent.

DC OPERATION

Your tape recorder operates on 6V DC power by using 4 batteries, type HP-11 or equivalent.

Remove the lid of the battery compartment by depressing latch and pulling outwards. Insert the batteries as shown on the diagram provided inside the battery compartment.

When operating your tape recorder on batteries, please ensure the mains lead is detached from MAINS LEAD socket (15) of the unit.

The batteries will last longer if you keep the volume down. Remember that the higher the volume, the shorter the life of the batteries.

Old batteries can leak and cause corrosion, so never leave run-down batteries in your tape recorder.

**HIGH POWER BATTERIES ONLY SHOULD BE USED TO OPERATE THIS UNIT
DURACELL BATTERIES RECOMMENDED**

MAINS OPERATION

To operate the set on mains power use the mains lead provided. Insert the socket end of the lead into the mains input socket (15) located at the side of the set. Connect the bare ends of the lead to a fused plug and plug into 240 volt AC \sim 50Hz electric socket. Connecting the mains lead to the set automatically disconnects the internal battery circuit. The wires in this mains lead are coloured in accordance with the following code:

Blue = Neutral

Brown = Live

The wire which is coloured Blue must be connected to the terminal marked with the letter N or coloured Black. The wire which is coloured Brown must be connected to the terminal which is marked L or coloured Red. The plug should be protected by a 3A fuse if a 13A (BS1363) Plug is used or if any other type of plug is used, by a 5A fuse either in the plug or adaptor or at the distribution board.

DO NOT REMOVE COVER WITHOUT FIRST DISCONNECTING UNIT FROM THE MAINS SUPPLY. THIS EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE DISCONNECTED FROM THE MAINS WHEN NOT IN USE. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THIS UNIT IS NOT USED IN VERY HOT OR HUMID CONDITIONS.

CASSETTE OPERATION

1. Depress the STOP/EJECT button (5) to open the CASSETTE DOOR (1).
2. Insert a recorded cassette in the CASSETTE DOOR (1). Ensure open end of the cassette tape exposing the tape is facing forward. Close the CASSETTE DOOR (1) firmly.
3. Depress LOAD/PLAY button (8).
4. Adjust the VOLUME control (10) as required.
5. To stop playing cassette tape, depress the STOP/EJECT button (5) to mid-position.
6. If you wish to rewind tape, depress REW button (7).
7. If you wish to forward tape, depress F.F. button (6).

NOTE: 1. When any button is in depressed position, before pressing any other button, always be sure to press STOP/EJECT button (5) first to release previous operation button. If this is not done, damage may result to both tape mechanism and cassette tape.

2. This cassette mechanism is designed with a built-in tape end sensor which automatically cancels the LOAD/PLAY button (8) and/or SAVE/RECORD button (9) when the tape reaches the end of its travel. However, please note this 'AUTO STOP' function will not work when the unit is in REWIND or FAST FORWARD mode, in such case, the STOP/EJECT button (5) should always be used to release these buttons to avoid excessive strain to cassette mechanism and motor.
3. This unit's mechanism also includes a PAUSE button (4) which, when pressed, instantly stops the tape's movement in the 'LOAD/PLAY' and 'SAVE/RECORD' modes of operation. When released, the tape movement resumes instantly. However, please note even though the tape will be stationary when the PAUSE button (4) is depressed, the mechanism's motor is still running and power is still being consumed. Therefore, do not leave the unit with PAUSE button (4) pressed for long periods as this will drain the batteries almost as fast as if in actual Play or Record modes.

RECORDING

This unit incorporates 3 methods of recording on the cassette tape by using : BUILT-IN MICROPHONE (2), EXTENSION MIC. socket (11) and DIN socket (17).

- NOTE:**
1. When recording, be sure the accidental record prevention tab has not been removed from rear of cassette tape, otherwise, recording cannot proceed (see 'Prevention of Accidental Erasure' paragraph). Do not depress the SAVE/RECORD button (9) using force.
 2. Since this unit features an Auto Level Control (A.L.C.) circuit, the VOLUME control (10) will have no effect on recording.

Recording from built-in microphone

1. Insert a blank tape in the CASSETTE DOOR (1). Ensure open end of the cassette tape exposing the tape is facing towards you. Close the CASSETTE DOOR (1) firmly.
2. Depress the Pause Key (4) then depress the Record Key (9) the unit is then ready for recording. The record level is adjusted automatically. (This unit is equipped with a unique design, One-touch recording mechanism. When the Record Key (9) is depressed the Play Key (8) will latch simultaneously.
3. The unit is now recording through the BUILT-IN MICROPHONE (2).

- NOTE:**
1. The built-in microphone used in this unit has very high sensitivity. Therefore, it is not necessary to place the cassette recorder close to the source of sound.
 2. Be sure no extension Microphone or Jack is attached to the EXTENSION MIC. socket (11) as this will automatically disconnect the BUILT-IN MICROPHONE (2).

Recording from external microphone

1. Connect the external microphone (optionally available) to the EXTENSION MICROPHONE socket (11).
2. Follow steps 1 and 2 as explained under the heading 'Recording from built-in microphone'.
3. This unit is now recording through external microphone (optionally available).

Recording from other signal source

1. Your unit is supplied with a DIN socket (17). With a cord set (not included) equipped with the correct DIN plugs, insert one end into the set and the other end to a record player or other signal source. Making sure the VOLUME control (10) being on Min. position. The recording can be stopped by depressing the STOP/EJECT button (5).
2. Follow steps 1 and 2 as explained under the heading 'Recording from built-in microphone'.
3. This unit is now recording through other signal source.

Erasure of recordings

When a new recording is made, all previous recordings on that part of the tape are automatically erased and only the new recording remains.

TAPE COUNTER

The digital Tape Counter (16) enables you to locate easily the section of tape you wish to playback. By depressing the reset button, the number on the tape indicator will go back to '000'.

REMOTE CONTROL (OPTIONAL EXTRA)

Connect an optional remote control switch to the REMOTE control socket (12) of this unit. Recording or playback will now start or stop (provided the appropriate buttons are in depressed position) by means of the On/Off switch on the remote control.

PRIVATE LISTENING

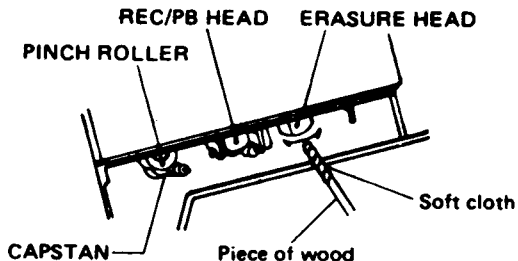
Insert the earphone into the EARPHONE socket (13). This will automatically disconnect the built-in speaker.

MAINTENANCE

After a period of time, especially when inexpensive brands of tape are used, the sound on playback may become 'muffled' or in extreme cases, almost inaudible.

This is NOT A FAULT OF THE MACHINE ITSELF but merely a deposit of oxide and other contamination on the tape heads. The head assembly, the capstan and the pinch roller are in constant contact with the tape. If these parts are dirty or have dust adherence, abnormal phenomena such as reduction in volume, sound distortion or fluctuation or tape chewing will result.

Use a small cotton swab with tape cleaning alcohol to clean the tape head, capstan and pinch roller carefully (rubbing or drinking alcohol should not be used).



Another easy way to overcome the problem is by using a proprietary brand of head-cleaning cassette. Follow the instructions provided with the cleaner carefully and **DO NOT OVERUSE** as this may cause undue wear. The tape head is a delicate precision component and serious damage will result if you attempt to scrape the contamination away with a sharp implement.

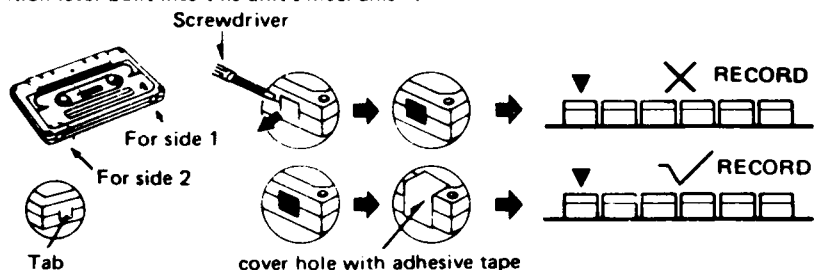
- NOTE:**
1. Don't bring articles of metal or magnetic material, such as a screwdriver near the head assembly.
 2. Don't clean the plastic cabinet with benzine or thinner. Clean it, if necessary, with a damp cloth.
 3. After cleaning, be sure no particles of cotton are left.

PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTAL ERASURE

The cassette tape contains 'Knock Outs' on its rear end to prevent accidental recording on, or erasure of, a pre-recorded tape. Recording can only be made when these 'Knock Outs' are intact. There is one knock out for each side (track) of the tape. To protect a recorded tape, proceed as follows :

With the recorded side of the tape facing upwards and the rear end (opposite the open end) facing you, use a small screwdriver to prise out the tab on your right-hand side.

If after the tabs have been removed, you wish to re-record on the protected side, simply cover the hole with a piece of sticky tape, thereby activating the accidental record prevention lever built into this unit's mechanism.



SPECIFICATIONS

Power Supply	: AC (~) 240V 50 Hz DC 6V 4 Batteries HP-11 type
Speaker	: 3" 8 ohm
Output	: 450 mW max.

CASSETTE SECTION

Tape	: Standard Cassette Tape (lengths C-90 or less)
Tape Speed	: 1-7/8 in./sec. (4.75 cm/sec)
Frequency Response	: 200-6,300 Hz
Erasing System	: DC Erase
Recording Bias System	: DC Bias

Continuous improvements are being made to our equipment both in quality and performance, thus we reserve the right to alter specifications without notice.

Special points to note when using unit to load or store programs in conjunction with a computer

1. The record playback head must be clean and in good condition. Any wear or dirt on the head will lower the recording level and the upper frequency response and in consequence degrade the computer signal. It is recommended that before storing any program on tape the head is cleaned in accordance with the detailed instructions given under maintenance.
2. The azimuth alignment of the record playback head is critical. If it is incorrect the computer signal will again be considerably degraded.
3. On loading a program into the computer from the recorder the volume control setting is very critical. Please follow the instructions given in your computer manual carefully. A good starting point is to have the volume control at about 75% of maximum then adjust up and down by small amounts as necessary until success is achieved. It is worth noting that different brands of pre-recorded cassette programs vary in their output level, therefore, it is possible the volume setting may have to be varied accordingly. This also applies to different brands of cassette tapes used to record your own programs.
4. When saving or loading, disconnect the cassette lead not in use. This will avoid the possibility of "Hum Loops" which is another possible cause of signal degradation.